AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein disconnected content is content that does not require a bi-directional connection to a remote information store.

3. (Previously Presented) The method in claim 23, wherein executing a connected-content trigger comprises at least one of establishing and maintaining a bi-directional connection to a remote information store.

4-22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) In an interactive television system that includes a receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, a method for preventing a viewer from being interrupted by links to inaccessible enhanced content when the receiver is disconnected, the method comprising:

storing configuration information specifying whether a receiver is connected to, or disconnected from, a bi-directional connection to a remote source, wherein the configuration information can be customized to control when the receiver will execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content and when the receiver will execute a disconnected-content trigger that links to disconnected content, the connected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a connected state and the disconnected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a disconnected state, and wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;

receiving a content trigger linking to enhanced content, wherein the content trigger includes a plurality of fields, the plurality of fields including at least a location field referencing a location of the enhanced content, and a separate connectivity field indicating whether the enhanced content is connected content or disconnected content;

determining, based on a connectivity value within the connectivity field within the content trigger, whether the content trigger is a connected content trigger or a disconnected-content trigger;

upon determining that the connectivity value distinguishes the trigger as a connected-content trigger, and upon determining that the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected, executing the connected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from a remote source over ~~a~~the bi-directional connection to the remote source; and

upon determining that the connectivity value distinguishes the trigger as a disconnected-content trigger, regardless of whether the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected or disconnected, executing the disconnected-content trigger, wherein the disconnected-content trigger identifies ~~to thereby access the~~ enhanced content that is accessed from local storage without ~~accessing the enhanced content from a remote source over a~~the bi-directional connection to the remote source.

24. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein executing a connected-content trigger comprises displaying information associated with the connected-content trigger.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

modifying the configuration information from specifying that the receiver is disconnected to specifying that the receiver is connected.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the configuration information is remotely modified by a third party.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the configuration information is modified by a user of the receiver.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the receiver receives and executes a connected-content trigger after the configuration information specifies that a previously disconnected receiver is now connected.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

modifying the configuration information to change the receiver from being connected to disconnected.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein the configuration information is remotely modified by a third party.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein the configuration information is modified by a user of the receiver.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the configuration information is stored in a local memory of the receiver.

36. (Currently Amended) A receiver having customizable configuration information specifying whether the receiver is connected or disconnected, wherein the receiver can receive both connected content that can be accessed when the receiver is connected and disconnected content that can be accessed when the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver prevents a viewer from being interrupted by links to inaccessible enhanced content when the receiver is disconnected, the receiver comprising:

means for storing configuration information specifying whether a receiver is connected to, or disconnected from, a bi-directional connection to a remote source, wherein the connection information can be customized to control when the receiver will execute a connected-content trigger that links to connected content and when the receiver will execute a disconnected-content trigger that links to disconnected content, the connected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a connected state and the disconnected content comprising enhanced content that is accessed by the receiver when the receiver is in a disconnected state, and wherein the receiver will only execute a connected-content trigger and thereby access the connected content when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected;

means for receiving a content trigger linking to enhanced content, wherein the content trigger includes a plurality of fields, the plurality of fields including at least a location field referencing a location of the enhanced content, and a connectivity field indicating whether the enhanced content is connected content or disconnected content;

means for determining, based on a connectivity value within the connectivity field in the content trigger, whether the content trigger is a connected content trigger or a disconnected-content trigger;

means for, upon determining that the connectivity value distinguishes the trigger as a connected-content trigger, and upon determining that the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected, executing the connected-content trigger to thereby access the enhanced content from a remote source over ~~a~~ the bi-directional connection to the remote source; and

means for, upon determining that the connectivity value distinguishes the trigger as a disconnected-content trigger, regardless of whether the configuration information indicates that the receiver is connected or disconnected, executing the disconnected-content trigger, wherein the disconnected-content trigger identifies ~~to thereby access the~~ enhanced content that is accessed from local storage without ~~accessing the enhanced content from a remote source over a~~the bi-directional connection to the remote source.

37. (Previously Presented) A receiver as recited in claim 36, further comprising means for modifying the configuration information.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a receiver as recited in claim 36; and

a transmitter transmitting video and the trigger with the video.

40. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 39, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

41. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 40, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

42. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 23.

43. (Previously Presented) A computer-program product as recited in claim 42, wherein the method further comprises modifying the configuration information.

44. (Previously Presented) A computer-program product as recited in claim 42, wherein the connected-content trigger is received by the receiver when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is disconnected, and wherein the receiver stores the connected-content trigger at least until the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

45. (Previously Presented) A computer-program product as recited in claim 44, wherein the receiver executes the connected-content trigger at a later time when the configuration information specifies that the receiver is connected.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 45, wherein the later time is an end of a delay period beginning upon receipt of the connected-content trigger.

47. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 42, the method further comprising:

receiving a disconnected-content trigger; and

distinguishing the disconnected-content trigger based on a connectivity value associated with the disconnected-content trigger.

48. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 47, the method further comprising:

executing the disconnected-content trigger.

49. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the connectivity value indicates that the content trigger is a connected-trigger even when the connected-trigger links to locally stored enhancement content.

50. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 49, wherein the locally stored enhancement content links to additional enhancement content that is accessible to the receiver through a bi-directional connection to a remote source.

51. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein a connected content trigger is filtered out and subsequently ignored by the receiver upon determining that the receiver is disconnected.

52. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the ~~trigger includes a~~ location field is a URI~~of the enhanced content, the location being separate from a field storing the connectivity value~~.

53. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim ~~52~~ 23, wherein the connectivity field containing the connectivity value ~~includes~~ is a value within an attribute/value pair, wherein the connectivity value specifies whether the content trigger is a connected content trigger or a disconnected-content trigger.

54. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein when the receiver is disconnected, the available enhanced content is more limited than the enhanced content available when the receiver is connected.